



MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISOR STEVE F. TAYLOR

# Privileged to Serve

Moving Milwaukee County *FORWARD* Together

FALL/WINTER 2016



## Steve F. Taylor

Milwaukee County  
9<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairman

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## Committee Assignments

Economic & Community  
Development, Chairman

Parks, Energy  
& Environment

## Memberships

Commission on Aging

Child Welfare  
Partnership Council

Milwaukee Regional  
Innovation Center,  
Board of Directors

## THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FROM SUPERVISOR STEVE F. TAYLOR

Dear Friends,

The holiday season is officially here and I hope it finds you and your family both happy and healthy. As I continue my work on your behalf, I send you this newsletter highlighting the successes I have worked hard to accomplish as your representative on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

In April, YOU, the voters of Franklin, Hales Corners and Oak Creek re-elected me by a wide margin to another term, and I can't begin to express how thankful I am. The voters made it clear that they will reward those who fulfill their campaign promises and that negative campaign tactics do not work.

We recently finalized the 2017 Budget and although I didn't vote for it due to the County Executive's addition of a wheel tax, I am happy to announce that funding has been provided for road improvements in Franklin and Oak Creek. In addition, I authored two major capital initiatives for Boerner Botanical Gardens. My top priority since taking office has been fixing the neglected infrastructure in my district and I will continue doing so as long as I hold this position.

I continue to be thankful for the opportunity to be your elected representative on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and I promise to continue to work hard every day. As always, please feel free to contact my office with any concerns you may have. All of us have unwanted stresses in our lives, but this is the time of year when you realize what is most important to you. For me, it is family and loved ones, and I find myself valuing that more each and every day. I truly hope you and your family have a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous 2017.

As I have stated in the past, it is an honor to serve you; together, with your help, I am certain we can continue Moving Milwaukee County Forward.

All My Best,

Supervisor Steve F. Taylor, 9<sup>th</sup> District



Supervisor Steve F. Taylor being sworn-in on April 18<sup>th</sup> for a second term as 9<sup>th</sup> District Milwaukee County Supervisor.

## Get In Touch With Supervisor Taylor

Please contact my office through my website at [www.county.milwaukee.gov/Taylor](http://www.county.milwaukee.gov/Taylor). Feel free to offer comments regarding any matter concerning Milwaukee County. Additionally, you may send an email to sign up for my e-newsletter "Privileged to Serve." The newsletter contains useful information pertaining to my service on the County Board, including highlights of major events, legislation and much more.

# In the Community

## Ensuring The Well-Being of Milwaukee County Residents

### Domestic Violence Awareness

On October 12<sup>th</sup>, Supervisor Taylor stood with his colleague, Supervisor Sequanna Taylor, and various other individuals who have been affected by domestic violence in some way, shape, or form. The press conference was used to announce a resolution recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month as part of the "Keep Us Safe" initiative. Furthermore, the resolution invited community members to wear the color purple on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> and use the hashtag #PurpleThursday to honor victims and show support for survivors of domestic violence.

Supervisor Taylor co-sponsored the resolution by his colleague from the 2<sup>nd</sup> District and joined the call to bring the issue of domestic violence to the forefront of the public conscience. Supervisor Taylor was quoted as saying "I have witnessed the effects domestic abuse has had on a woman who is a mother, a daughter, a sister, and an aunt...so, today, I am choosing to fight back against domestic violence and will use the power of my office to officially put all abusers on notice that their reign of terror is coming to an end." Shelley Janowski, a survivor of abuse and advocate also stood at the press conference; she



*Supervisor Taylor pictured while Milwaukee County resident and domestic violence survivor Shelley Janowski speaks at October's press conference in support of domestic violence awareness.*

said, "I prefer not to say that I am a victim, but rather that I am a fighter against the crime of domestic violence because I fight for my survival and daughter's survival every day." Supervisor Taylor is looking forward to working on future efforts to prevent and end domestic violence.



*Supervisor Taylor speaking at the Senior Citizen Hall of Fame Award Ceremony held in May.*

### Commission on Aging & Senior Citizen Hall of Fame

On May 27<sup>th</sup>, the Milwaukee County Department on Aging held its annual Milwaukee County Senior Citizen Hall of Fame Award ceremony. As a member of the Milwaukee County Commission on Aging, Supervisor Taylor attended the event where five outstanding seniors from Milwaukee County who have served the community as volunteers and as advocates on behalf of the elderly were inducted into the Hall of Fame. The Commission on Aging appoints a committee to review nominations for the Hall of Fame Award. This committee then recommends five seniors from the applicants to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Karen Borchardt of Oak Creek was one of the 2016 inductees. Supervisor Taylor presented Karen with a citation from the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors in honor of this outstanding achievement. Her volunteer efforts with the Oak Creek Historical Society, the American Lung Association, and as a bailiff in Oak Creek's municipal court, as well as her history of public service are among the many accomplishments that make her worthy of this great honor. Over the last two years alone, Karen has logged over 1,360 hours of volunteer service. Congratulations on your well-earned recognition, Karen!

### South Suburban Chamber of Commerce

Continuing with his annual tradition, Supervisor Taylor attended the South Suburban Chamber of Commerce's annual awards dinner in February. Oak Creek's Black Bear Bottling, Inc. was the proud winner of the 2015 Business of the Year. Black Bear Bottling moved its headquarters to Oak Creek in 2001 and has since experienced rapid growth in production and annual output. Black Bear has also played an important role in the local community since their move to Oak Creek. They are proud supporters of Kiwanis, National Night Out, Oak Creek Little League and a number of local events. Black Bear also generously awards its Claire Baie Black Bear scholarship to a deserving high school student each year. Congratulations to Black Bear Bottling, a proud and growing member of the 9<sup>th</sup> District and Oak Creek business community.



*Sup. Taylor presents Black Bear Bottling with an honorary citation at the South Suburban Chamber of Commerce annual awards dinner. Left to right: Oak Creek Ald. Chris Guzikowski, Supervisor Taylor, Oak Creek Mayor Stephen Scaffidi, Pete Caruso, Jr., Vince Caruso and Jim Akers.*



# In the Community

## Notable Legislation

### Milwaukee County Redistricting Reform

On March 17<sup>th</sup>, a resolution and County ordinance change sponsored by Supervisor Taylor that alters the way that Milwaukee County draws its supervisory districts was approved by the County Board, 15-2. For decades, the drawing of updated County district maps was a responsibility of local politicians, who often had their own self-interests in mind. This is also an issue at both the state and federal levels of government. However, under Supervisor Taylor's reforms, the County's redistricting responsibilities will be transferred from the hands of politicians to an Independent Redistricting Committee (IRC). This committee will be composed of six retired judges, appointed by the County Board Chairman and confirmed by the County Board. A panel of community stakeholders from local universities and public interest and policy groups will provide input about the appointees prior to their confirmation.

The first Independent Redistricting Committee will meet following the 2020 federal census to draw district maps, which will then be in effect for the 2022 County Board elections. The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) will provide technical assistance and map drafting services to the Independent Redistricting Committee. The IRC is required to hold at least four public meetings to solicit comments regarding its newly drawn maps, which will enhance the role of the public and community stakeholders in the redistricting process. Upon request, the IRC will also provide redistricting services to each of Milwaukee County's 19 individual municipalities for their respective aldermanic and village board districts.

Supervisor Taylor believes that this redistricting reform resolution and ordinance change is a win for Milwaukee County residents interested in transparent and open government. The reform is a collaborative effort, involving a variety of experts and interested parties from around Milwaukee County. The reform follows the redistricting efforts of a number of large, urban counties from across the United States and Supervisor Taylor hopes it encourages other local governments to reconsider their redistricting processes.

### Legal Custody and Physical Placement Study Services

In October, Supervisor Taylor introduced a resolution before the County Board. His resolution aimed to develop a plan for the implementation of legal custody and physical placement study services, thereby bringing Milwaukee County Family Court into compliance with Wisconsin State Statute 767.405. The statute provides that a county shall provide legal custody and physical placement study services whenever legal custody or physical placement of a minor child is contested. Furthermore, a legal custody and physical placement study is to take into account the conditions of a child's home and any other matter relevant to the best interest of the child. Previously, Milwaukee County's Family Court has been unable to provide this state mandated service as a result of budget constraints. The resolution passed the Board unanimously.

At the Judiciary, Safety, and General Services Committee, Supervisor Taylor praised its decision to approve his resolution and said "When I heard that Milwaukee County wasn't following state statutes, I was appalled. Having a social worker involved in a case where child abuse, parental alienation, and domestic violence is occurring is necessary because they have the training and expertise required to navigate these complicated situations. Unfortunately, Guardian Ad Litem's are not required to have the same level of training as social workers and I have witnessed firsthand what happens when they don't. This will go a long way in helping families, especially children, avoid long and drawn out cases.



*Supervisor Taylor testifying with Chief Judge Maxine White and Family Court Commissioner Ana Berrios-Schroeder at the Judiciary, Safety, and General Services Committee meeting. Supervisor Taylor's resolution was approved by a 4-0 vote and later passed by the full Board.*

# In the Community

## 9<sup>th</sup> District Events & Updates

### Bobby Chase Brings Sign to Hales Corner Fire Department



*Supervisor Taylor presenting Bobby Chase of Hales Corners with a citation in honor and recognition of his work in building a sign for the Hales Corners Fire Department.*

Nothing is better than recognizing the hard work and efforts of the citizens from your own community, especially our youth. Supervisor Taylor did exactly that in September by presenting Hales Corners' very own Robert (Bobby) H. Chase III with a citation in honor of his initiative to take it upon himself to build a sign for the Hales Corners Fire Department. Bobby undertook this task as the project necessary for him to achieve the Eagle Scout badge within the Scouting Organization; however, in doing so, he went above and beyond the standards required of most other Eagle Scout projects.

Bobby Chase spent well over a year putting time, effort, and plenty of hard work into planning and developing the sign for the fire department and ended up raising close to \$12,000 for his project. Thanks to Bobby's dedication, the completion of his Eagle Scout project will allow for the Hales Corners Fire Department to communicate more effectively with the public that it serves. Bobby has undoubtedly earned the respect and admiration of both the residents of Hales Corners as well as the Fire Department. Fire Chief Michael A. Jankowski commended Bobby for doing "a fantastic job...and acting as the general contractor in getting the sign completed." Thank you for all of your hard work, Bobby Chase!

### Arbor Day 2016



*Supervisor Taylor pictured at Boerner Botanical Gardens' annual Arbor Day celebration with several students, their parents, and Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele.*

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, Supervisor Taylor joined Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele and the first grade students from South Milwaukee's Rawson Elementary School for an Arbor Day celebration. During the annual celebration, hosted by Boerner Botanical Gardens, students planted a Johnny Appleseed tree, along with a Heritage Hybrid Oak Tree. As part of the planting ceremony, the students wrote wishes on slips of paper and placed them in the holes for the trees. Free saplings, courtesy of Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful and Argosy Foundation, were distributed to the first 100 visitors to the event.

### 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Franklin's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



*Supervisor Taylor handing out candy at Franklin's 60 Year Anniversary & 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.*





# In the Community

## Milwaukee County 2017 Budget

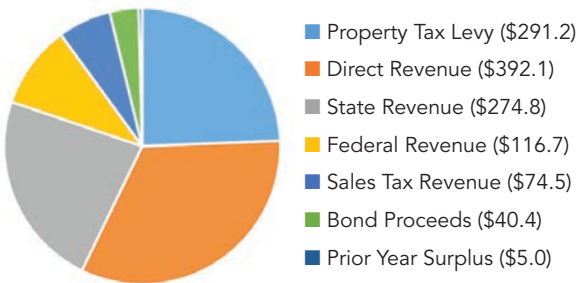
On September 30<sup>th</sup>, County Executive Chris Abele released his 2017 Milwaukee County recommended budget to the public and on October 3<sup>rd</sup> he presented it to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. The 2017 recommended budget calls for total expenditures of \$1,189,597,484, a decrease of over \$184 million from the 2015 budget, or a 13.44% decrease. The recommended property tax levy is \$291,174,114, an increase of over \$4.1 million, or 1.46%.

The County Board's Finance and Audit Committee spent the month of October deliberating the budget and made a number of changes.

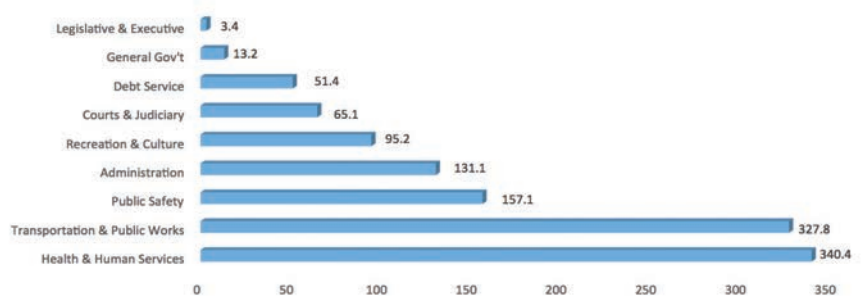
The most noteworthy was cutting in half the Executive's \$60 wheel tax proposal as well as reducing his proposed property tax increase.

The County budget was adopted on November 7<sup>th</sup> by a vote of 11-7. Supervisor Taylor voted NO as he felt that more sacrifices need to be made due to projected future deficits. Items like the GO Pass (reduced fare bus rides to seniors and the disabled) need to be eliminated and cuts need to be made to transit routes; another option would be to consider raising standard fares. He feels that the taxpayers just cannot continue down this path of fiscal irresponsibility any longer.

### 2017 Proposed County Budget (in millions)



### Milwaukee County Expenditures (in millions)



## 9<sup>th</sup> District Event Photos



Supervisor Taylor attended several of the stops on the route of Sprecher's Traveling Beer Garden during the summer months. The photo on the left was taken while Supervisor Taylor was speaking at the Root River beer garden event. The center photo shows him sharing a beer with Parks Director John Dargle, also at Root River. The photo at right was taken at the Hales Corners beer garden stop, and includes Sprecher President Jeff Hamilton listening on the right while Supervisor Taylor is speaking before tapping the keg.



Supervisor Taylor became a member of the Hales Corners Lions; he is pictured being pinned by his sponsor, Mr. Rob Chase.



Supervisor Taylor speaking at his Oak Creek town hall meeting about the County Executive's proposed 2017 budget.



Supervisor Taylor with Milwaukee County Parks Director John Dargle (right) and Hans Weissgerber III (left), speaking prior to tapping the ceremonial keg at Maifest at Estabrook Park.



**Supervisor Steve F. Taylor**

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## Wisconsin State Fair



Supervisor Taylor and Governor Scott Walker during one of the many enjoyable warm summer days at the 2016 Wisconsin State Fair.

## Tentative Schedule of Major Public Works Projects in the 9<sup>th</sup> District:

The 2017 Milwaukee County Budget included a number of capital improvements in the 9<sup>th</sup> District. Supervisor Taylor's top priority since taking office in 2012 has been his commitment to fixing the district's failing infrastructure. This year, you saw the completion of St. Martins Rd. and improvements to 76<sup>th</sup> St. near Ryan Rd. in Franklin. Next year you will notice improvements being made to 13<sup>th</sup> St. south of Ryan Rd. in Oak Creek as well as the reconstruction of County Trunk Highway H (Old Ryan Rd.) in Franklin, to name a few.

This past spring, many of you saw the work being done at Hales Corners Pool. The roof, which was deteriorating, was replaced as well as the pool liner. Supervisor Taylor's commitment to Hales Corners continues as he turns his focus to Boerner Botanical Gardens and its needs.

- 2017 – W. Ryan Rd.: 95<sup>th</sup> St. to 112<sup>th</sup> St.
- 2017 – Boerner Botanical Gardens recirculation pump for rock garden
- 2017 – Boerner Botanical Gardens bathroom reconstruction project
- 2017 – S. 13<sup>th</sup> St. W. Ryan Rd. to Oakwood Rd. (Mill and overlay)
- 2017 – Two Whitnall Park Bridges over Root River
- 2018 – S. 13<sup>th</sup> St.: Rawson Ave. to Drexel Ave.
- 2019 – S. 13<sup>th</sup> St.: Drexel Ave. to Puetz Rd.

## Southwood Glen Elementary School & Oak Creek Middle School

Supervisor Taylor visited Southwood Glen Elementary School's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class and Oak Creek Middle School's 8<sup>th</sup> grade class over the course of the last year. He spoke about his local government job as Milwaukee County's 9<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor and the Board of Supervisors' function as the County's legislative branch of government.

